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(e) The patient is reported to have shown some improvement. If his improvement continues and if some responsible person is willing to take care of him he will be placed before the Visiting Committee of the hospital for discharge.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know whether the person referred to who has been detained in the mental hospital is a major or a minor? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I have no information on the point. I want notice."

Orders relating to the eligibility of medical officers to private practice.

* 276 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House copies of all the orders passed by either the Government or the Surgeon-General permitting and regulating the privilege of private practice that is now enjoyed by the officers in the Medical Department?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules regulating private practice of medical officers contained in paragraphs 279 to 288 of the Madras Civil Medical Code which is available in the library for reference. Government consider it unnecessary to place on the table several Government orders on which the above rules are based.

Alleged running of a nursing home by the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital.

* 277 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital is running a regular nursing home in 'Binfield' house in Poonamallee High Road; and

(b) if so, the nature of the disciplinary action that the hon. the Minister proposes to take against that Surgeon?

A.—(a) Yes. He has been permitted by the Surgeon-General to maintain a nursing home for his own private patients.

(b) The Government do not propose to take any disciplinary action.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I shall like to know from the hon. the Chief Minister under what section of the Madras Medical Code the second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital was allowed to run a nursing home? ".

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" He was given permission in 1928 by the then Surgeon-General and the present Surgeon-General has agreed with the action of his predecessor."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"In reply to a question put on the floor of this House on the 28th of February last, the hon. Minister said that according to Governmental rules they are not permitted to run nursing homes. May I know how permission was granted to this gentleman, and whether there are different rules for different persons?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"Will he kindly read that question and answer?"

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Sir, in reply to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar—this is how it reads—'Are they not permitted under the rules (to run nursing homes)' the hon. Minister said: 'No.'

"Then again in answer to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, viz., 'Will not the Surgeon-General be able to furnish the information whether they are running (nursing homes) or not'?, the hon. Minister said: 'These medical officers are not permitted to run nursing homes, and Government have no reason to think that that rule is violated.' May I know, Mr. President, from the hon. Minister the special reasons that prompted the Surgeon-General to permit Major Pandalai to maintain a nursing home, and whether the answers of the hon. Minister that I have just now read out were made without reference to the Surgeon-General?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"Evidently that answer was given without knowledge of this case."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Then, Sir, with reference to another question put by me as to whether the hon. Minister would categorically deny that certain officers of the General Hospital are running nursing homes, the hon. Minister said: 'No information.' The Minister then went on to say that "if specific cases are brought to my notice, I shall have an enquiry.' I want to know, Mr. President, as to whether the hon. Minister would be pleased to appoint a committee of this House to make an enquiry into the conduct of this officer?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"I said 'if specific cases are brought to my notice.'"

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Sir, I am placing before the hon. the Chief Minister a specific case, viz., the running of a nursing home by the Second Surgeon of the General Hospital (Major Pandalai).

"Does the hon. Minister realize that the morale of the whole service is being undermined by this officer's conduct?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"I do not admit that statement."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know if the Surgeon-General is empowered to permit doctors to observe a day's silence in the week?"

The hon. the President:—"The question does not arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know if these Surgeons are not transferred?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"They are liable to be transferred."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"For how many years has he been holding the same post there? Do not the Government consider that he should be transferred?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the exemption granted to this particular doctor was at the instance of the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Was the Government previously informed by the Surgeon-General before exemption was granted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I want notice."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government be prepared to grant similar concession to others as well?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"As I said, it is not the Government that gives permission. The Surgeon-General has to be moved in the matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the Surgeon-General has ever consulted the Government before he gave that concession?"

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Was that permission conditional?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Surgeon-General says that there is no objection to the permission given in the case of this officer."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Superintendent of the General Hospital (Lieut.-Col. Bradfield) brought to the notice of the Government and the Surgeon-General that owing to the running of the nursing home by this officer, the work of the General Hospital has suffered very much? And is the Government satisfied that the exemption granted to this medical officer is in consonance with the rules regulating the medical service?"

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"In view of these discussions, will the hon. Minister be pleased to cancel the exemption granted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Qualifications of the Honorary Cardiologist in the Madras General Hospital.

* 278-A *Q.*—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have appointed an Honorary Cardiologist to the Madras Government General Hospital and whether he is in independent and sole charge of that department;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, what are his special qualifications to fill that post;